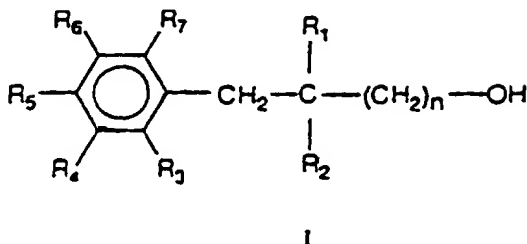


a compound according to formula I:



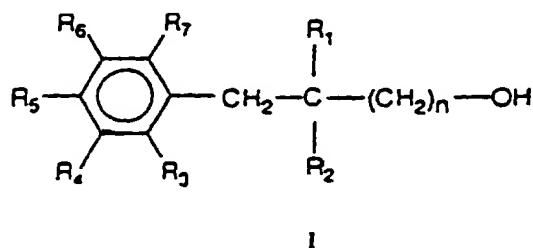
wherein,

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R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R₁ and all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2.

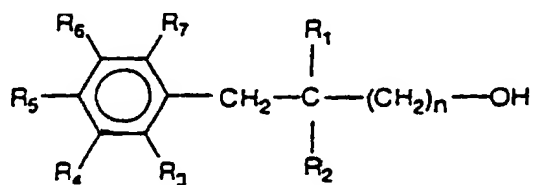
22. (Amended) A method of disinfecting a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said disinfectant comprising:
a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and
a compound according to formula I according to formula I:



wherein,

- R_1 is hydrogen or is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl;
- R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and
- each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then $n = 2$.

24. (Amended) A method of deodorizing a surface comprising the step of applying a disinfectant to said surface, said deodorant comprising:
a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and
a compound according to formula I:

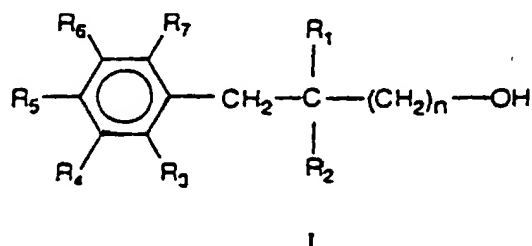


wherein,

- 12* R_1 is hydrogen or is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl;
- R_2 is selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl; and
- each of R_3 to R_7 independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C_1 - C_8 alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C_2 - C_8 alkenyl and C_3 - C_8 alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2, with the proviso that when R_1 and all groups R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen and R_5 is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then $n = 2$.

Please add new claims 26 - 42 as follows:

-- 26. Process for the production of a compound of formula I:



wherein,

R₁ is hydrogen;

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R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, or selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2;

with the proviso, that

i) when all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then

n = 2;

ii) when all groups R₃, R₄, R₆ and R₇ are hydrogen and R₅ is methyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, or methoxy, then n = 2;

- iii) when R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then $n = 2$;
- iv) when R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is methyl or methoxy, then $n = 2$;
- v) when R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then $n = 2$; and
- vi) when R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$;

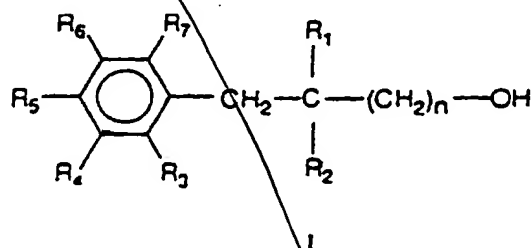
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said process comprising the steps of:

- a) monoalkylating a malonic acid dialkyl ester to introduce the group R_2 ;
- b) dialkylating the monoalkylated malonic acid alkyl ester with a benzyl halide optionally substituted at the aromatic ring to introduce the groups R_3 through R_7 which are other than hydrogen;
- c) saponifying and decarboxylating the dialkylated malonic acid dialkyl ester to form a corresponding 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid, and
- d) reducing the 3-aryl-substituted propionic acid to form a desired alcohol of formula I.

27. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative comprising:

a compound selected from alcohols, surfactants and solvents; and

at least one compound according to formula I:



wherein,

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R₁ is hydrogen or is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl;

R₂ is selected from C₁-C₈ alkyl, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl; and

each of R₃ to R₇ independently, is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, halogen, nitrile or thiocyanate, uninterrupted or interrupted by oxygen and/or sulphur atoms, C₂-C₈ alkenyl and C₃-C₈ alkynyl, optionally attached to the aromatic ring by -S- or -O-, and n is 1 or 2,

with the proviso, that

i) when R₁ and all groups R₃ through R₇ are hydrogen, then

n = 2;

ii) when R₁ and R₂ are C₁-C₆ alkyl and

a) all groups R₃ to R₇ are hydrogen, or

b) R₅ is methyl, methoxy or chloride, and all other groups R₃,

R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen,

then $n = 2$;

iii) when R_1 , R_2 and R_4 are methyl and all groups R_3 and R_5 through R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$;

iv) when R_1 , R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and R_4 and/or R_5 are hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl, then $n = 2$;

v) when R_1 and R_4 through R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl or ethyl, and R_3 is methyl or methoxy, then $n = 2$;

vi) when R_1 , R_3 , R_5 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, R_4 and R_6 are methyl or R_4 is hydrogen and R_6 is methyl, then $n = 2$; and

vii) when R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butyl, R_3 and R_5 are chloride, and all other groups R_4 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, then $n = 2$.

28. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is hydrogen and n is 1.

29. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and n is 1.

30. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative
according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methyl,
 R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is methyl, and n is 1.

31. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative
according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2
is ethyl, and n is 1.

32. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative
according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methyl,
 R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl, and n is 1.

33. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative
according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is
chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

34. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative
according to claim 27, wherein R_4 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_3 is chlorine, R_1 is
hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

35. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein ⁷⁰are hydrogen, R_5 is chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
36. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein ⁷⁰are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are chlorine, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
37. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_4 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_3 is methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
38. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are methyl, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
39. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 and R_5 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 is methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.

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40. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 , R_6 and R_7 are hydrogen, R_4 and R_5 are methoxy, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is ethyl and n is 1.
41. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is butylene, and n is 1.
42. A disinfectant, antiseptic, antimycotic, deodorant or preservative according to claim 27, wherein R_3 to R_7 are hydrogen, R_1 is hydrogen, R_2 is pentyl and n is 1.--
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